

Message Text

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AMCONSUL ZAGREB
SECDEF WASHDC
JCS WASHDC
CNO WASHDC
CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

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BELGRADE FOR WORTZEL AND DAO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:MOPS, YO

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SUBJECT: NIMITZ CARRIER FLIGHT OPS

REFS: A) BELGRADE 1655 B) STATE 036701

1. NIMITZ FLIGHT OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN SUBJECT OF DISCUSS-
ION FOR LAST SEVERAL DAYS. IMPORTANCE OF TITO VISIT WITH
THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENHANCE USG-GOY RELATIONS IS WELL RECOG-

NIZED. AT SAME TIME, WE MUST ALSO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT TRADITIONAL USG POLICY TO CONDUCT AIR AND NAVAL EXERCISES IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS. ADDITIONALLY, SCHEDULED NIMITZ VISIT TO VENICE IS IMPORTANT AS IT ADDS ANOTHER PORT TO THE FEW PRESENTLY OPEN TO NUCLEAR POWERED AIRCRAFT CARRIERS.

2. IN ORDER TO MEET BOTH OF THE ABOVE GOALS AND RECOGNIZING THAT THE UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE OF PRESIDENT TITO'S VISIT MUST OVERRIDE SOME OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS, USS NIMITZ WILL LIMIT FLIGHT OPERATIONS TO THE SOUTHBOUND TRANSIT ON 20 MARCH AND TO THE ITALIAN FLIGHT INFORMATION REGIONS (FIRS). AIR EXERCISES BETWEEN NIMITZ AIR GROUP AND ITALIAN AIR DEFENSE UNITS ARE PLANNED DURING THE SOUTHERN TRANSIT. SINCE FLIGHT OPERATIONS ARE WITH A NATO ALLY AND WILL REMAIN WITHIN ITALIAN FIR'S, INVITATIONS SHOULD NOT BE EXTENDED TO YUGOSLAV OBSERVERS TO EMBARK IN NIMITZ DURING THE

TRANSIT. YUGOSLAV ATC AGENCIES MAY BE NOTIFIED, HOWEVER (ON AN EXCEPTIONAL BASIS BECAUSE YUGOSLAV FIR NOT INVOLVED) OF INTENDED USN FLIGHT OPERATIONS IN THE ADJACENT ITALIAN FIR'S. THIS NOTIFICATION OF OPS IN THE ITALIAN FIR'S WILL BE ON A ONE-TIME BASIS ONLY TO ACCOMMODATE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE TITO VISIT.

3. ACTUAL NOTIFICATION OF FLIGHT OPERATIONS IN ITALIAN FIR'S WILL BE TRANSMITTED BY SHIP TO USDAO BELGRADE APPROX-SECRET

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IMATELY ONE WEEK PRIOR TO PLANNED FLIGHT OPERATIONS AND, SUBJECT TO EMBASSY VIEWS, BE RELAYED TO YUGOSLAV ATC AGENCIES.

4. AMBASSADOR EAGLEBURGER CONCURS.

5. THIS IS A JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE. VANCE

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NNN

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